

THE LACLEDE BLADE

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FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITOL.

Our Special Correspondent Writes Entertainingly  
of Things at Washington.

If there has been any doubt in the minds of the American public as to where the president stands with regard to the navy, although that seems hardly possible, he must have dispelled it by his western speeches. Naval officers in Washington are greatly delighted at the president's stand for they believe that he will so inspire the great American public with love of their arm of the service and an appreciation of its necessities that it will through its members of congress, respond generously to the executive appeals for more funds with which to perfect the country's fighting fleet, and possibly will even heed the arguments in favor of increasing materially the pay of officers and enlisted men.

Ever since he was assistant secretary of the navy, Mr. Roosevelt has shown the keenest interest in this arm of military establishment. Since he became president he has more than once enjoyed the hospitality and service of a naval vessel and when he was on his way to Panama he familiarized himself with every detail of a fighting ship even going so far it will be remembered, as to throw a few shovelfuls of coal into the furnaces, a task which sounds simple in the telling but which is attended with difficulties none can appreciate who have not experienced the fearful heat of a naval vessel's stoke hole when she is under way. Even with the ship lying at anchor and nothing fired up but the boilers of some donkey engine the heat is sufficient to cause the unaccustomed visitor to faint if he remains there more than a moment or two, and to indulge in so strenuous an exertion, under such conditions, as to throw coal from the great scoop shovels into the fireboxes is beyond the energy of a citizen less strenuous than the president.

When, a short time ago, Admiral Converse's health became such as to necessitate his retiring from the important post of chief of navigation, the president himself chose Admiral Brownson as his successor. Admiral Brownson had already been placed on the retired list, under the provision which compels a naval officer to retire at sixty-four, regardless of his physical and mental ability longer to serve his country, but that did not deter the president from calling upon him to fill the most important post in the navy department and the results have clearly demonstrated the wisdom of the choice. Admiral Brownson is the youngest man of sixty-four the navy department has ever seen and his energy is such that some of his far younger subordinates are almost ready to retire now. But the effect of his administration is proving most beneficial to the navy and if a few "mollycoddles" tall by the wayside, President Roosevelt will spend upon them few regrets.

Indications of the remarkable success with which Secretary Taft has performed his mission in Japan, where he has awakened the wildest enthusiasm, even among so phlegmatic a people, continue to reach Washington and are received with the utmost gratification in administration circles, while among the diplomats Mr. Taft is talked of as a nine days' wonder. Going to Japan at a time when the attitude

of that people was anything but friendly to the United States, it was freely intimated by diplomats who have experienced the displeasure of Japanese officials, that the secretary might meet with anything but a warm reception and not one of them for a moment believed that the big man could discuss with his characteristic frankness the difficult question of Japanese exclusion and the delicate subject of war with anything approaching success. But Secretary Taft has done both these things and has done them so well that practically all Japan is resounding with cheers in his honor. The diplomatic situation is entirely cleared and the way is now open for a resumption of that discussion of exclusion which was so rudely broken off by the action of the San Francisco school authorities. With the hearty manner and the expansive and charming smile which are so well known, Mr. Taft combines absolute frankness and infinite tact and the combination is one as valuable as it is rare. The president was, probably, the one man in Washington who did not regard the task imposed upon the secretary of war as too difficult and his estimate of his cabinet member's rare ability has been more than justified.

There has been a tremendous lull in politics since the president left Washington and few politicians have sought the national capital. John A. Stewart, president of the League of Republican Club of New York, is here in connection with some business incident to the coming Syracuse convention, which is to discuss the burning topic of New York's abandoned farms, which are said to aggregate many acres. It is estimated that 6,500,000 acres have been affected by the depreciation in farm values which is so great that the agricultural lands of the empire state represent today \$168,000,000 less than they did a quarter of a century ago. Secretary Wilson will address the Syracuse convention and the experts of the bureau of soils are to be sent into the state later on to talk over the problem of new crops with the farmers and with the hope of making some suggestions which may prove of value in reclaiming abandoned farms and enhancing the value of all. Mr. Stewart has persistently declined to talk politics for publication, but he has told some intimate friends that Governor Hughes has lost ground in the last few months and that as a presidential possibility he counts for considerably less than he did six months ago.

According to some of the political experts the defeat of Vice President Fairbanks as a lay delegate to the Methodist conference means his defeat in the republican convention. It is hard to understand why so much was made of the cocktails which Mr. Fairbanks served at his luncheon in Indianapolis when he constantly serves wine at his home in Washington. But there are many things in politics which are hard to understand.

Tiger Republican Club Banquet

The Tiger republican club, of Kansas City, has issued invitations for a big republican banquet to be held at the Coates House in Kansas City next Wednesday evening. Covers will be laid for over 500 persons. Senator Warner and Attorney General Hadley have already promised to speak and Governor Frantz, Governor Hoch, Senator Long and several republican national committeemen are expected to be present. The affair is planned as a compliment and a farewell to Senator Warner and to boost the Kansas City claim for the national republican convention.

Over The County

Mrs. Emma Taylor, a well known and popular milliner at Marceline, died quite suddenly last week.

W. W. Sturges, for many years a well known citizen of Meadville, removed with his family to Arizona last week where they will make their future home.

The fiftieth session of the Missouri conference of the United Brethren church was held at Brookfield last week, Bishop Wm. M. Weekley presiding.

The contract for a four foot brick sidewalk along the west side of the street from Brookfield to the city cemetery has been let and the work is to be done at once.

Henry Sornberger, who has been agent for the Burlington at Brookfield for several years, has resigned to enter the real estate business with Geo. W. Bailey.

Bucklin people are rejoicing over a thirty inch vein of coal found at that place at a depth of 227 feet. A shaft is to be sunk and regular mining begun at once.

Robt. W. Phillips, of Linneus, and Miss Lillian Henderson, of Portland, Oregon, will be united in marriage in Kansas City today. They will reside in Linneus.

Hiram Long, the veteran newspaper man and well known citizen of Marceline, returned last week from an extended visit in the east where fifty years ago he was a boatman on the Hudson river.

Geo. L. Joyce, the well known Bucklin lawyer was united in marriage last Wednesday to Miss Blanche Pancost, the ceremony taking place at the home of the bride's parents, Mayor and Mrs. L. E. Pancost in Marceline.

Surprise reigned in the federal court at St. Joseph Wednesday when the Burlington and Rock Island railroads pleaded guilty in thirteen cases to having violated the law which provides that no live stock shall be in transit for more than twenty-eight hours consecutively without feed or water. The minimum fine is \$100 and the maximum \$500.

The Genuine Authorized Version

A special revival of the "Two Orphans" will be seen at the DeGraw in Brookfield next Saturday night, Oct. 19, under the direction of Fred G. Conrad with a carefully chosen company of tried actors thoroughly experienced in the great roles of this famous play. The genuine authorized Kate Claxton will be used, it being the only one that gives a complete idea of the full power of this drama. A complete equipment of special scenery has been supplied which will permit the entire production in its original strength to be given. The management through its agreement with Miss Claxton, has secured the great benefit of her many years of experience in the part of the blind girl Louise, and therefore it will be played just as it used to be in detail. In the excellent cast will be found a cruel Frochard of unusual power and a crippled Pierre of the most appealing type, while the countess, Jacques, the minister of police and the numerous other celebrated characters will be thoroughly well acted.

The Kansas City Weekly Journal is recognized as one of the best weeklies in the state and you get it a whole year free by paying one year in advance for THE BLADE.

Just as we begin to think that we really know something really worth while, then something happens to show us that we really know so little of all there is to know that it is not worth while to feel puffed up on account of our knowledge.

NEW SEASON MILLINERY

The season of Fall and Winter styles is now on. Our display is attractive. We are keeping our stock fresh and inviting by the arrival of new goods. If you are not a customer of ours, we would be pleased to have you call and Miss Hodges will gladly show you through our stock. We also hope to have our old customers all back this season.

Respectfully,

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Laclede - - - - - Missouri

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More Steel Bridges

Last week a large quantity of bridge material was unloaded at this point by the Gilligan Bridge company, of Falls City, Nebraska. This week a force of men is engaged in getting this material in readiness for immediate use. In this shipment we include the material for a bridge near J. L. Kirby's, one near Haseville, one west of the Lambert bridge, two east of Laclede, and seven new bridges will be erected in and around St. Catherine. At this term of the county court held Monday and Tuesday the order was made for the letting of eleven more new bridges. The present county court is making a record that will stand to its credit for years. Under the efficient direction and sound advice of Bridge Commissioner McMichael this county stands in the forefront of the counties of Missouri as to the bridged condition of our streams. —News.

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How contagious is the insomnia of the midnight cat!

Deficient Grain Yields

The wheat crop of the United States is 110 million bushels short of last year, the oats crop is 223 million bushels short, and the corn production is likely to show a deficiency of nearly 500 million bushels, according to the October government report, made public at Washington this week. The deficiencies are not as great as have been claimed by the more pessimistic of the crop estimators, but they are sufficiently large to make it certain that high prices for all grain will be maintained throughout this year. The deficiency in the three crops as compared with last year is about 810 million bushels. But last year's yields were the largest, in the aggregate, on record. Compared with the average of the past five years the shortage is 22 million bushels of wheat, 125 million bushels of corn, and 175 million bushels of oats.

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ZEMO, a scientific preparation for external use. Stops itching instantly and destroys the germs that cause skin diseases. Eczema quickly yields and is permanently cured by this remarkable medicine. All Druggists. Write for sample. E. W. Rose Med. Co., St. Louis, Mo.

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